

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-10, and 13-18 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 10, and 13-15 stand rejected. Claims 16-18 are allowed. Claim 9 has been objected to. No claims have been amended, added, or canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,383, 024) in view of Okamoto (U.S. Patent No. 6,752,662). The Office Action states that with regard to Claims 1 and 3, Wang et al. discloses an electronic device (1) comprising: a housing (52, 51); a first connector (upper part of 51 and 3) comprising: a first cavity (upper 512 and interior of 3) defined by a first outer shell (upper part of 51) integrally formed in the housing (52, 51) and having a first cross-sectional profile of a first plug (Column 2, Lines 22-26) to which the first connector (3) may mate; and a first electrical contact (upper 23) integrally formed with and extending from a component (2) of the electronic device (1) and protruding into the first cavity (upper 512 and interior of 3); a second connector (lower part of 51 and 4) comprising: a second cavity (lower 512 and interior of 4) defined by a second outer shell (lower part of 51) integrally formed in the housing (52, 51) and having a second cross-sectional profile of a second plug (Column 2, Lines 22-26) to which the second connector (lower part of 51 and 4) may mate; and a second electrical contact (lower 23) integrally formed with and extending from the component (2) of the electronic device (1) and protruding into the second cavity (lower 512 and interior of 4); wherein the housing (52, 51) includes the first connector (upper part of 51 and 3) and the second connector (lower part of 51 and 4).

Claim 1, however, as currently presented, requires that the cavity have a *cross-sectional profile of a plug to which the connector may mate*. Wang does not teach this limitation. Even if it is assumed that the aperture 512 shown in FIG. 1 of Wang is a "cavity," the aperture 512 does not have the cross-sectional profile of the plug (not shown) to which the connector of FIG. 1 may mate. Rather, it is the inner shield 3 that has the cross-sectional profile of a corresponding plug (col. 2, lines 22-26). The inner shield 3, however, is not an "outer shell" as recited in claim 1, because the inner shield 3 is not integrally formed in the housing of the electronic device shown in FIG. 1 of Wang, and as required by claim 1.

Although the Office Action states that the combination of aperture 512 and inner shield 3 in FIG. 1 of Wang constitute a "cavity," claim 1 as currently presented requires that the cavity be defined by a first outer shell *integrally formed in the housing*. If elements 51 and 52 form the "housing" of the device shown in FIG. 1 of Wang, then the inner shield is not integrally formed in the housing, as required by claim 1. Rather, inner shield 3 is formed separately from the housing, as shown in FIG. 1 of Wang.

In summary, although the aperture 512 shown in Wang is integrally formed in outer shield 51, aperture 512 does not have a first cross-sectional profile of a first plug to which a connector may mate, as required by claim 1. Although the inner shield 3 shown in Wang has the cross-sectional profile of a corresponding plug, the inner shield is not integrally formed in the outer shield 51. Wang, therefore, fails to disclose a first outer shell integrally formed in the housing and having a first cross-sectional profile of a first plug to which the first connector may mate, as required by claim 1.

Neither Wang nor Okamoto, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests this express element of claim 1. Claim 1, therefore, patentably distinguishes over the combination of Wang and

Okamoto. Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and therefore patentably distinguishes over Wang for at least the same reason. Applicant therefore traverses the rejection of claims 1 and 3 and respectfully requests that it be withdrawn.

Claims 4-5, 7-8, 10-11 and 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. in view of Okamoto (U.S. Patent No. 6,752,662) and Tan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,475,021). None of these references, however, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests a first outer shell integrally formed in the housing and having a first cross-sectional profile of a first plug to which the first connector may mate, as described above. Applicant therefore traverses the rejection of claims 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, and 13-15 and respectfully requests that it be withdrawn.

Conclusions

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this response, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the applicant's attorney at the phone number listed below.

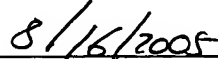
If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for extension of time is otherwise absent, applicant hereby requests any extension of time. Please charge any fees, or make any credits, to Deposit Account No. 501797.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Plotkin, Esq.

Reg. No. 43,861



Date

Robert Plotkin, P.C.

91 Main Street, Suite 204

Concord, MA 01742-2527

Ph: (978) 318-9914

Email: rplotkin@rplotkin.com